Atlantic Richfield Company

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Mr. Steven Way
On-Scene Coordinator
Emergency Response Program (8EPR-SA)
US EPA Region 8
1595 Wynkoop Street
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Delivered via e-mail

Subject: June 2013 Monthly Progress Report
Rico-Argentine Mine Site – Rico Tunnels
Operable Unit OU01, Rico, Colorado

Dear Mr. Way,

This progress report describes activities conducted during the month of June, 2013 at the Rico-Argentine Mine Site (site) and activities anticipated to occur during the upcoming month. These activities are organized by task as identified in the Removal Action Work Plan. This progress report is being submitted in accordance with Paragraph 35.a of the Unilateral Administrative Order for Removal Action (the "UAO"), dated March 17, 2011.

ACTIVITIES FOR JUNE

This section describes significant developments during the preceding period including actions performed and any problems encountered during this reporting period.

Site-Wide Activities

- Digital archives continue to be reviewed by the Atlantic Richfield project team for information that may provide a better understanding of the site. Search strategies continue to be refined to maximize to the extent feasible the recovery of information of potential use to the project team. A database of the searches performed is in development to document the use of the digital archive.
- Continued avalanche hazard studies of the St. Louis Ponds Site and the Argentine Mill Site/Access Road.
- Received a modified schedule from US EPA on June 12, 2013 based on discussion and planning with AR over the last months. AR provided a response to the modified schedule on June 25, 2013 requesting clarifications/changes to the modified schedule.

Task A – Pre-Design and Ongoing Site Monitoring

- Submitted and posted the February Surface Water Sampling Report and cross sectional transect data to the project SharePoint site. https://www.aecomonline.net/projects/Rico
- Preparing and reviewing March, April, May and June Surface Water Sampling Reports and cross sectional transect data prior to submittal to EPA and posting to the project SharePoint site.
- The June water sampling event was initiated on June 10, 2013 and completed June 28, 2013.
- June sampling event groundwater samples and water levels were obtained from the following groundwater wells: GW-1, GW-3, GW-4, GW-5, GW-6, EB-1, EB-2, MW-101, MW-102, MW-103, MW-104, MW-204, CHV-101, P13-102, P13-103, MW-1 DEEP, MW-1 SHALLOW, MW-2 DEEP, MW-3 DEEP, MW-4 DEEP, MW-4 SHALLOW, MW-5 DEEP, MW-5 SHALLOW, MW-6 DEEP,

and MW-6 SHALLOW. The following wells were found to be dry: MW-202, MW-2 SHALLOW, MW-3 SHALLLOW, and BAH-01.

- During the June sampling event, surface water samples were collected from locations DR-3, DR-4, DR-5 and DR-6.
- During the June sampling event, Dolores River water samples and flow measurements were collected from DR-2 and DR-7. Grab samples as well as multi-point composite samples were obtained from the two referenced river locations.
- During June, flumes were inspected for debris. The flumes were cleared as required.
- Downloaded available flume data for June 2013 from the Parshall flume data loggers. The most recent data was obtained from the OTT PLS pressure transducer and ultra-sonic level sensor at north flume (DR-3) and from OTT Orpheus Mini at south flume (DR-6).
- Data from the pressure transducer located in angle borehole AT-2 was collected.
- Conducted inspection of the pond system spillways, pipes, water levels and general conditions. Overall condition of the pond good. All spillways and pipes observed to be flowing without obstructions.
- Downloaded available data for June 2013 from the Doppler Radar Flow Meter installed at Dolores River station DR-1.
- Continued work on overall site Data Management System (EQuIS) development. A web-based system with site data which can be queried in a tabular format has been set up and is currently being tested and refined. A web-based system with site data which can be queried from a map is nearing completion.
- Continued evaluation of potential improvements on field water data gathering and telemetry. Radio signal evaluations were conducted from the Blaine/517and St Louis areas to a central receiving station for optimization of location without repeaters. An application is to be submitted to the town for an antenna located at the Rico field office.
- Continued development of the Site Conceptual Model (SCM).

Task B – Management of Precipitation Solids in the Upper Settling Ponds

- St. Louis adit discharge water continued to be diverted to Pond 15 during June 2013. Pond 18 has not been in use during June due to seeps and leakage from a partially buried historic plastic pipe between Pond 18 and 15 observed in November. Repairs of the Pond 18 pipe seep area scheduled for late July 2013.
- The St Louis Pond system embankments flow and general conditions were inspected during June 2013. The ponds had adequate freeboard through the month. Flow into and between the ponds is not blocked, and the overall condition of the embankments appears good.
- The Rico 2013 Solids Removal Work Plan for Pond 11 and 12 was approved by Us EPA on June 11, 2013.
- Held Pre-bid Meeting, received bids and awarded construction contract for the solids removal from Ponds 11 and 12 including pond water management and embankment improvements on June 27, 2013 to Flare Construction.

Task C – Design and Construction of a Solids Repository

- Began design of a phased solids repository at the South Stacked Repository – Option A (SSR-A) site
- Continued work on geotechnical analyses of alternative solids drying facility and repository sites, focusing current attention on Pond 13 and the SSR-A.
- Continued evaluation of geotechnical field and laboratory test data on Pond 18 solids placed in the Interim Drying Facility (IDF) in 2011.
- Worked on establishing parameters for shear strength and consolidation testing of surrogate lime-amended treatment solids.
- Conducted site reconnaissance with the design staff for the solids repository design.
- Continued work to secure lands needed for a permanent solids repository. The footprint of the SSR -A will easily fit within the area of the US Forest Service tract known as STA-2. This tract is